



*Two men went up into
the temple to pray*

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity September 1, 1946

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Maryland St. & Ellice Ave
Winnipeg

Rev. A. B. Midland, Pastor (122 Borebank St.
(Phone 404.329
Mr. Leslie Hall, Organist and Choirmaster

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Opening Hymn #307	
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Organ Postlude after Silent Prayer.	

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE EXTEND a hearty welcome to Mr. Leslie Hall who begins today to serve as our organist and choirmaster. He comes to us with training and experience that will be of much service to our congregation and choir. We welcome him with the hope that his stay with us will be long and most pleasant for him.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL teachers & Officers meet next Wednesday, 8:30 P.M., at the W. Leonhart home, #2 Delrey Apts., Sherbrook St.

LADIES AID & MISSIONARY SOCIETY meets next Friday, 2:30 P.M. at the Mrs. Pfrimmer home, 941 Byng Place, Fort Garry.

SENIOR CHOIR PRACTICE and social next Friday, 8:00 P.M. at the parsonage. Will all choir members of last year make a special effort to attend this first practice and invite new voices to join the choir.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY next Sunday, Sept. 8. We should like to have all children present the first Sunday of the new school season. Sunday School begins at 10 o'clock instead of 10:30 as has been the practice during July and August.

DIVINE SERVICE next Sunday at 11 o'clock. We all should try to begin the Fall Season with better attendances than ever before. Come regularly for your own soul's good and to encourage the choir and all workers in our Church.

TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY we shall receive an offering for Lutheran World Action. The Church Council unanimously approved this offering at its last meeting. The purpose for which it is received is for spiritual relief, particularly in all the countries in Europe where there are Lutherans, and who have had their Church life and spiritual opportunities disrupted by the war and its aftermath. Last Spring, we gave a liberal offering for physical relief. Now we will follow it up with spiritual encouragement and help. Let us deny ourselves unnecessary things so that we can help our brethren through Lutheran World Action.

Revival in Japan

Just a year ago today, twelve men stood on the deck of the battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay. They signed a document which ended eight years of conflict in the Orient and brought World War II to a close.

Wars are the result of man's willful neglect of God's precepts. But God is able to convert some of the fruits of war to further his plan of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Two such fruits grew out of the war with Japan. The first was destruction of the myth that the Nipponese emperor was the son of heaven. The second was abrogation of the Religions Law which had kept the churches under government control.

These two moves helped create new opportunities for spreading the Gospel of the Prince of Peace among Japan's 80,000,000 people. To take advantage of them, three major needs had to be faced by all church groups among the 400,000 Christians in Japan.

The needs were for: (1) Missionary statesmen to serve as a link between Japanese churches and other Christian bodies throughout the world. (2) Material relief for pastors and people, and funds to rebuild churches and parsonages. (3) Return of missionaries as soon as occupation authorities would permit.

Lutherans met the first need, in a measure, through its chaplains serving with the occupation forces. Some of them had been missionaries to Japan. They re-established contact with the native pastors, reported on the destruction of church property, and gave valuable information to the ULC Foreign Board for shaping future policy in Japan.

A relief agency was set up to meet the second need. It was known as



LARA—Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia. Little has been done, however, toward reconstruction of churches. There were more than 40 Lutheran congregations and preaching points in Japan before the war. Reports indicate about half were destroyed. Of the 40 native pastors, 21 were killed, died, went into the army, or entered some other profession. As a result, the pre-war total of 7,000 Lutherans dwindled to about 2,000.

But Lutheran activity in Japan is not dead. Eight years of war could not destroy the work which our missionaries began there more than 50 years ago. Some native pastors braved death to continue their ministry, the remaining churches have gained substantially in attendance, 800 are enrolled in the boys' school at Kumamoto, pastors who for one reason or another had given up the ministry are returning.

Missionaries—the third need—are going back. Government approval for return to Japan was given late in July to Dr. L. S. G. Miller, who was American dean in the boys' school at Kumamoto, and Miss Martha B. Akard, who was dean in the Janice James School, also in Kumamoto.

These missionaries are the first answer to a plea voiced by Japanese Lutherans. "Send us missionaries," they ask, "Shintoism and Buddhism have failed. We must have Christianity."